

REMARKS

Please reconsider this application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

- Claims 37-49 are pending.
- Claims 37-43 are rejected.
- Claims 44-49 are allowed.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 37-43 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Nyhart (U.S. Patent No. 6,738,661)—D1.

Applicant has thoroughly searched the disclosure of D1 and cannot locate any place in D1 that teaches an ethylene-carboxylic acid copolymer. Therefore, Claim 37 does not teach or disclose every element of Claim 37. Claims 37 is patentable over D1.

Claims 38-43 depend from Claim 37 and contain all the limitations of Claim 37. This makes these dependent claims patentable over D1 for at least the same reasons that were discussed for the independent claims. Please remove the rejection of these claims, as well.

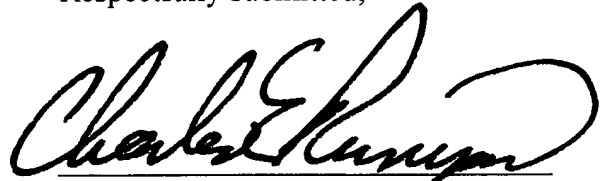
Furthermore, Applicant can not find an ethylene-carboxylic acid copolymer with 5-50 wt% of carboxylic acid monomer, which means Claims 38-40 are patentable over D1 for this additional reason. Nor can Applicant find such a copolymer wherein the carboxylic acid is selected from the list recited in Claim 42 or wherein the copolymer is the copolymer recited in Claim 41. Therefore, Claims 41 and 42 are patentable over D1 for this additional reason.

Claims 37-43 are patentable over D1 because D1 does not teach each element of these claims. Please remove this rejection.

If the Examiner contends that Applicant has missed the relevant disclosure, Applicant asks that the Examiner point out where in the reference the relevant disclosure exists and asks for a definition of acronyms, if any, that are used, but not defined, in the relevant disclosure.

Since all claims are in a condition for allowance, please issue a Notice of Allowability so stating. If I can be of any help, please contact me.

Respectfully submitted,



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